

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Method in connection with the continuous joining of a first layer of aluminum and a second layer of a different material, to produce a packaging laminate comprising said first and second layers, the method comprising: subjecting a free surface of at least said first layer of aluminum to both plasma treatment and flame treatment; joining together said free surface of the first layer of aluminum with a free surface of the second layer ~~surfaces are joined together~~ after the flame treatment and the plasma treatment; joining the first layer, before the flame treatment and the plasma treatment, with a bulk layer of paper or paperboard, on a side of the first layer opposite to the free surface of the first layer, the bulk layer exhibiting though holes, openings or slits covered by a membrane comprising the first layer of aluminum; the plasma treatment being performed locally, only at regions of the through holes, openings or slits, the plasma treatment being performed intermittently on a continuously running web comprising the first layer.

2. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said plasma treatment is performed before said flame treatment.

3. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said flame treatment is performed before said plasma treatment.

4. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said flame treatment is performed over essentially the entire free surface of said first and/or said second layer, said first and/or second layers extending throughout the laminate that is produced.

5. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein said plasma treatment is performed intermittently and locally over essentially the entire free surface of said first and/or said second layer, said first and/or second layers extending throughout the laminate that is produced.

6. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said first layer is an aluminum foil layer.

7. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said second layer is a film of adhesive material or thermoplastics, which is co-extruded, before said treatment, together with a third, thermoplastic layer to form an outermost layer on the inside of the packaging laminate, said third layer being a polyethylene layer.

8. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 7, a fourth, intermediate layer of low density polyethylene being arranged between said second layer and said third layer said second, third and fourth layers being co-extruded with one another, before said treatment.

9-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) Packing laminate comprising ~~[[a]]~~ the first layer of ~~the aluminum~~ a first material and ~~[[a]]~~ the second layer of ~~a second~~ the different material, wherein ~~it~~ the packaging laminate has been produced by a method according to claim 1.

12. (Previously Presented) Packaging container manufactured from the packaging laminate as specified in claim 11.

13. (Currently Amended) Packaging container according to claim 12, wherein ~~[[it]]~~ the packaging container is provided with an opening arrangement applied onto the region of and around the membrane and the hole, opening or slit ~~provided according to claim 9.~~

14. (Previously Presented) Packaging container according to claim 13, wherein the opening arrangement comprises a screw top that is arranged to open the packaging container by removing the membrane from the region of the hole by a combined screwing-and pulling-up motion.

15. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 7, wherein the third layer is a polyethylene layer comprising in the majority metallocene polyethylene.

16. (Currently Amended) Packing laminate comprising:

a first layer of aluminum and a second layer of a material different from aluminum, the first layer having a first side surface joined to a bulk layer of paper or paperboard and an opposite flame-treated and plasma-treated second side surface joined to the second layer, the bulk layer exhibiting through holes, openings or slits covered by a membrane comprising the first layer of aluminum, the plasma-treated second side surface comprising spaced apart locally plasma-treated regions at the through holes, openings or slits, the second side surface of the first layer comprising non-plasma-treated regions between the spaced apart locally plasma-treated regions, the non-plasma-treated regions not being plasma-treated.